

Atty Dkt. No.: SKEL-012CIP  
USSN: 10/797,907

### AMENDMENTS

Please incorporate the following amendments to the subject application.

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) **A method of preparing a bone defect filling cement, said method comprising:**  
**providing at least two precursors of said bone defect filling cement; and**  
**combining said at least two precursors in conjunction with vibration to**  
**prepare said bone defect filling cement in a method of using a bone defect**  
**filling cement, the improvement comprising:**  
**using vibration in conjunction with said cement.**
2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein **said at least two precursors comprise at least a solid and liquid precursor vibration is employed in conjunction with the preparation of said cement.**
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein vibration is **also** employed in conjunction with delivery of said **prepared** cement.
4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein vibration is **also** employed in conjunction with preparation of a target bone site for said **prepared** cement.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein vibration is **also** employed in post-delivery modification of said **prepared** cement.
6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said vibration has a frequency ranging from about 0.1 - 5.0 to about 100,000 Hz.
7. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said cement has a specific gravity at 20°C that is at least about 1.0.

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8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said cement is a calcium-~~and/or~~ phosphate or calcium sulfate cement.
9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said cement is a calcium phosphate ~~or calcium sulfate~~ cement.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of introducing a cement composition into a target bone site, said method comprising:
- (a) preparing a bone defect filling cement by:
    - (i) providing at least two precursors of said bone defect filling cement; and
    - (ii) combining said at least two precursors in conjunction with vibration to prepare said bone defect filling cement; and
  - (b) delivering said prepared cement composition to said target bone site in conjunction with vibration.
11. (Original) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said target bone site is part of a reduced fracture.
12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said target bone site comprises cancellous bone.
13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 12, wherein said vibration during delivery provides for controlled penetration of said cement composition into said cancellous bone without use of substantial pressure.
14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13, wherein penetration of said cement into said cancellous bone stops substantially simultaneously with cessation of said vibration.
15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said

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vibration during delivery is provided by applying vibratory force to a cement composition introduction element of a delivery device for said cement.

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 15, wherein said cement composition introduction element is a tubular structure.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said delivery device comprises a vibratory element for vibrating said tubular structure.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method according to Claim 17, wherein said tubular structure is a needle.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method according to Claim 17, wherein said tubular structure is a cannula.

20. (Currently Amended) A system ~~for using a bone defect filling cement, said system~~ comprising:

(a) a cement handling element for use in preparing a bone defect filling cement; and

(b) a vibratory element for vibrating said cement during its preparation and/or use.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 20 ~~[[21]]~~, wherein said cement ~~composition introduction element~~ handling element is a tubular structure.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 22, wherein said tubular structure is a cannula.

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25. (Original) The system according to Claim 20, wherein said system further comprises a cement composition.
26. (Original) The system according to Claim 25, wherein said cement composition is a calcium phosphate composition.
27. (Currently Amended) A kit ~~for using a bone defect filling cement, said kit comprising:~~  
(a) a cement handling element for use in preparing a bone defect filling cement; and  
(b) a vibratory element for vibrating said cement at some point during its preparation ~~or use~~.
28. (Canceled)
29. (Currently Amended) The kit according to Claim ~~[[28]]~~ 27, wherein said cement handling ~~composition introduction~~ element is a tubular structure.
30. (Canceled)
31. (Original) The kit according to Claim 29, wherein said tubular structure is a cannula.
32. (Original) The kit according to Claim 29, wherein said kit further comprises a cement composition.